

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 27-31, 33-51, and 53-54 were pending prior to making this amendment.

Claims 1-17, 27-31, 33-51, and 53-54 are allowed.

Applicant amends claims 27, 36-41, 46, 49, 50, and 53 herein. No new matter is added.

APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicant acknowledges Examiner's statements of Reasons for Allowance of the above-referenced patent application and agrees that the claimed subject matter is patentable. However, Applicant takes no position regarding the Reasons for Allowance presented by the Examiner other than the positions Applicant may have previously taken during prosecution. Therefore, the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance should not be attributed to Applicant as an indication of the basis for Applicant's belief that the claims are patentable. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully asserts that there may also be additional reasons for patentability of the claimed subject matter not explicitly stated in this record and Applicant does not waive its rights to such arguments by not further addressing such reasons herein.

Claim Amendments

Applicant amends claims 27, 36-41, 46, 49, 50, and 53 for antecedent basis or grammatical purposes, and without prejudice with regard to pursuing the claims as previously presented or in other forms in a continuation or other application. The claim amendments are not being made to overcome any cited references, and Applicant neither intends nor believes that these amendments operate to narrow the scope of the claims.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully requests consideration and entry of the amendment of claims 27, 36-41, 46, 49, 50, and 53 prior to issuance of the patent. The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (503) 546-1812 if there are any questions.

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Respectfully submitted,

STOLOWITZ FORD COWGER LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bryan Kirkpatrick", written in black ink.

Bryan D. Kirkpatrick

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